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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/930,120	08/14/2001	Ken Hanscom	Q00-1027-US1 / 11198.70	9955	
7590 01/12/2006		EXAMINER			
Robert A Saltzberg			RIVERA, WILLIAM ARAUZ		
Morrison and F	oerster LLP				
425 Market Str	reet	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER		
San Francisco, CA 94105-2482			3654		
			DATE MAILED 01/12/2004	DATE MAIL ED 01/12/2007	

DATE MAILED: 01/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

			Application No.	Applicant(s)				
Office Action Summary			09/930,120	HANSCOM, K	EN			
			Examiner	Art Unit				
			William A. Rivera	3654				
Period fo	The MAILING DATE of this commun or Reply	nication app	ears on the cover sheet	with the correspondence	e address			
WHIC - Exte after - If NC - Failu Any	ORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD F CHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE Management of time may be available under the provisions SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this common period for reply is specified above, the maximum some to reply within the set or extended period for reply reply received by the Office later than three months and patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	MAILING DA s of 37 CFR 1.13 munication. tatutory period w y will, by statute,	TE OF THIS COMMUNI 6(a). In no event, however, may ill apply and will expire SIX (6) M cause the application to become	NICATION. a reply be timely filed ONTHS from the mailing date of the ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133)	his communication.			
Status								
1) 又	Responsive to communication(s) file	ed on <i>12 Oc</i>	tober 2005.					
• —	•		action is non-final.					
3)	Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is							
	closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.							
Dispositi	on of Claims							
4)⊠	4)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-35</u> is/are pending in the application.							
•	4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.							
5)□	Claim(s) is/are allowed.							
6)⊠	☑ Claim(s) <u>1-35</u> is/are rejected.							
7)	Claim(s) is/are objected to.							
8)[8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.							
Applicati	on Papers							
9)□	The specification is objected to by th	ne Examiner	:					
10)	10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.							
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).								
	Replacement drawing sheet(s) including			·	•			
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.								
Priority ι	ınder 35 U.S.C. § 119							
	Acknowledgment is made of a claim ☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:		•	. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).				
	1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.							
	2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No							
	3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage							
	application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).							
* 8	see the attached detailed Office action	on for a list o	of the certified copies n	ot received.				
A44	44.5							
Attachmen	` '		. □ 1	. O				
	e of References Cited (PTO-892) e of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (F	PTO-948)		v Summary (PTO-413) o(s)/Mail Date				
3) 🔲 Infort	nation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or r No(s)/Mail Date			f Informal Patent Application ((PTO-152)			

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 1-11, 13-21, 23-31, and 33-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Coles (U.S. Patent No. 6,062,500) in view of Sawano (European Patent Office No. 10106074).

With respect to Claims 1-11, 13-21, 23-25, and 33-35, Coles, Figure 1, teaches a guide assembly comprising a first rotatable roller. Sawano, teaches a guide assembly comprising a first roller including a perimeter surface, a circumference, a longitudinal axis and a groove 1b disposed into the perimeter surface, the groove having a groove length that is less than the circumference. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide grooves to the rotatable roller of Coles, as taught by Sawano, for the purpose of minimizing the friction and the tension on the magnetic tape thereby increasing the life of the magnetic tape.

With respect to Claim 26-31, the method described in these claims would inherently result from the use of the guide roller of Coles in view of Sawano as advanced above.

Claim 12, 22, and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Coles in view of Sawano as applied to claims 1-11 and 13 above.

With respect to Claims 12 and 22, Sawano is advanced above. Sawano teaches all the elements of the guide assembly except for a second roller. However, it would have been obvious

to one of ordinary skill in the art since it has been held that mere duplication of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. Further, having more than one guide roll in a tape drive system is notoriously old and well known.

With respect to Claim 32, the method described in these claims would inherently result from the use of the guide roller of Coles in view of Sawano as advanced above.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-35 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

The new grounds of rejection were necessitated by applicant's amendment, e.g., the requirement for a "rotatable" roller, claim 1, line 3.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William A. Rivera whose telephone number is 571-272-6953. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday - 7:30 to 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kathy Matecki can be reached on 571-272-6951. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

WILLIAM A. RIVERA PRIMARY EXAMINER

January 9, 2006